

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
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Connecticut Department of Agriculture
February 2, 2016



A malnourished horse (left) and a Great Dane (right) were among the animals seized today from an East Hampton horse breeder in an animal-cruelty investigation.

DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE SEIZES NEGLECTED HORSES, DOGS, CHICKENS, RABBITS FROM EAST HAMPTON BREEDER

The Department of Agriculture today seized 32 horses and numerous other animals from an East Hampton breeder as part of an animal cruelty investigation.

The horses, along with two dogs, several rabbits and more than 80 chickens, were removed from the Fairy Tail Equine facility after an investigation determined the animals were malnourished, not receiving proper veterinary care and kept in unhealthy conditions.

The horses were taken under a search-and-seizure warrant signed by a Superior Court judge and brought to the department's Second Chance large animal rehabilitation facility in Niantic, where they will be cared for as the investigation continues.

The Daniel Street facility is owned by Thomas and Melanie Olajos, who breed Friesian, Andalusian, and Gypsy Vanner horses.

The investigation began in September when East Hampton's animal control officer received a complaint from a woman who had leased four horses to the breeder, and said the animals were emaciated when she picked them up a few days earlier.

Those horses were subsequently hospitalized after being diagnosed with malnutrition and parasites. The East Hamp-

ton officer went to the facility on Sept. 9, but was denied access to the animals. On Sept. 10, animal control officers from the Dept. of Agriculture went to the farm and found Thomas Olajos on the property, with no hay or grain available for the horses to eat.

An initial assessment found that nearly half of the horses on the property were underweight and exhibiting signs of malnutrition including muscle wasting, protruding hip bones and visible ribs and spines.

Olajos was instructed to have hay and clean water available for the horses at all times, and to obtain veterinary care for numerous horses that had untrimmed or cracked hooves.

A subsequent evaluation of the horses by a veterinarian hired by Olajos found that several had anemia related to malnutrition.

The veterinarian advised Olajos to double the amount of hay given to the horses to 200 bales a week, and made a list of other detailed feeding and treatment suggestions for him to follow.

Dept. of Agriculture animal control officers made regular visits to the property to check on the horses' progress, and observed that some had gained weight while others had

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LANCASTER, PA., LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Avg. Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:	LOW	HIGH
breakers 75-80% lean	71.00	76.50
boners 80-85% lean	71.00	75.50
lean 88-90% lean	68.00	74.00
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	120.00	132.50
Choice 2-3	117.00	127.00
Sel 1-3	112.50	121.50
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEIN STEERS		
HiCh/Prm 2-3	111.50	114.00
Ch 2-3	106.00	115.50
Sel 1-2	110.00	113.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 2-3	120.00	120.50
Ch 2-3	116.00	119.00
Sel 1-2	110.00	113.00
CALVES Graded bull		
No 1 90-128 lbs	180.00	192.00
No 1 85-90 lbs	175.00	177.00
No 2 80-128 lbs	166.00	185.00
No 3 80-130 lbs	155.00	174.00
Utility 60-110 lbs	140.00	155.00
SPRINGING COWS		
Supreme	2050.00	2050.00
Approved	1700.00	1800.00
Medium	1200.00	1500.00
Common	800.00	1150.00
SPRINGING HEIFERS (7-9 MOS)		
Supreme	1825.00	2050.00
Approved	1500.00	1800.00
Medium	1500.00	1800.00
Common	1150.00	1400.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
50-60 lbs	290.00	305.00
80-90 lbs	210.00	225.00
90-110 lbs	205.00	227.00
110-130 lbs	177.00	119.50
130-150 lbs	147.00	162.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
80-120 lbs	90.00	105.00
120-160 lbs	80.00	115.00
160-200 lbs	70.00	105.00
BUCKS		
160-200 lbs	85.00	100.00
200-300 lbs	80.00	97.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Select 1, by head, est.		
30-40 lbs	125.00	140.00
40-50 lbs	150.00	180.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1, by head, est.		
80-130 lbs	220.00	235.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Select 1		
100-150 lbs	275.00	305.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA., HOG AUCTION

All prices per cwt.

52-56	250-280 lbs	38.00	46.00
	280-320 lbs	51.00	60.00
Sows 1-3	400-500 lbs	30.50	33.50
Boars	400-600 lbs	4.00	4.00

CARLISLE, PA FEEDER PIGS

January 29, 2016

US 1-2	17-22 LBS	268.00	275.00
	29-34 LBS	124.00	155.00
	53-58 LBS	90.00	94.00
US 2	36 LBS	158.00	158.00
	54 LBS	96.00	96.00
	118-124 LBS	65.00	72.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5LBS	14.00	14.00
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 12-4OZ	16.00	16.50
APPLES, HNYCRSP, XFCY, 100	54.00	54.00
APPLES, EMPIRE, 120/140, #1, BU	16.00	17.00
APPLES, MACS, FNCY, 80, 88	18.00	18.00
APPLES, MACS, FNCY, 120, 140	18.00	18.00
APPLES, MAC, #1, CELLPK, 120	16.00	17.00
APPLE, MACS, FNCY, 12-3LB, 2-1/2"	15.00	16.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LBS	6.00	7.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
BEETS, RED, ORGANIC, 25 LBS	10.00	10.00
BRUSSELS SPROUTS, 25 LBS	38.00	38.00
PARSNIPS, MED, 20 LBS	19.00	23.00
POTATO, RNDWT, #1, CHF, 50LB	10.00	10.00
POTATO, YLLW, #1, SZA, 50LB	12.00	12.00
POTATO, YLLW, #1, CHEF, 50LB	14.00	14.00
PUMPKINS, PIE, 1-1/9	11.00	15.00
PUMPKIN, PIE, 36" BIN	190.00	230.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9	10.00	12.00
TOMS, GHSE, CHERRY, 8-10 OZ	14.00	17.00
TOMATO, GHSE, LOOSE, 25LB	16.00	20.00
TOMATO, HEIRLM, GHSE, 10LBS	24.00	28.00
TURNIP, PRPLTP, ORG, 25LBS	13.00	14.00

SHIPPED IN

APPLE, FUJI, XFCY, NY, 80	34.00	34.00
APPLE, GALA, XFCY, NY, 100	32.00	32.00
APPL, GLD DEL, ORG, XF, WA, 80	46.00	46.00
APPLE, MAC XFCY, NY, 100	26.00	26.00
APPLE, RED DEL, ORG, XF, WA, 72	45.00	45.00
APPLE, RED DEL, NY, XFCY, 64	18.00	18.00
APPLE, ROME, NY, XFCY, 64	22.00	22.00
CABBAGE, GRN, NY, 50 LBS	11.00	12.00
CIPOLINOS, NY, 10 LB MESH	16.00	18.00
DANDELION GRNS, GA, 24	16.00	18.00
ESCHALLOT, DRY, NY, 10 LBS	8.00	8.00
GARLIC, COLOSS, CA, 30 LBS	60.00	65.00
GINGER ROOT, 10 LBS	20.00	21.00
HORSERADISH, NJ, 5LBS	14.00	14.00
KALE, GA, CRATES, 24 BNCH	13.00	15.00
LETTUCE, GNLF, AZ-CA, 24	16.00	20.00
LETT, ROM, CA, 12-18 OZ (3CT)	22.00	26.00
MACHE, GHSE, PA, 3 LBS	12.00	12.00
MESCULIN MIX, RED, CA, 3LBS	6.00	6.50
MESCULIN MIX, ORG, CA, 3LBS	8.00	8.00
MUSHRM, ORG WHT, PA, 12-8OZ	17.00	17.00
MUSHROOM, OYSTER, PA, 3 LBS	13.00	13.25
MUSHRM, SHITAKE, PA, LG, 3LB	14.00	15.00
ONIONS, BOILERS, SM, 25 LBS	7.00	7.00
ONIONS, YELLOW, NY, 50 LBS	14.00	16.00
ONIONS, WHT, ID, 25 LBS	16.00	20.00
ONIONS, RED, NY, 20-2 LB	24.00	25.00
ONIONS, WHITE PEARL, 12-10OZ	16.00	16.00
OREGANO, FL, 1 LB BAG, 12	8.00	9.00
PARSLEY, CURLY, TX, 60	28.00	32.00
PARSNIPS, MED, MI, 18-1 LB	20.00	22.00
PEARS, D'ANJ, ORG, #1, WA, 80	69.00	69.00
PEAR, BOSCH, OR, #1, WRP, 70	40.00	42.00
PEPPR, BELL, ORG, GHS, ISR, 5LB	32.00	32.00
POTATO, FNGRLNG, PRPL, 20 LB	30.00	32.00
POTATO, RSST, ID, #1, 90, 50 LBS	17.50	19.00
POTATO, RND RED, WA, 50LBS	25.00	28.00
TURNIP TOPS GRNS, GA, 12	13.00	15.00
WNTCRSS, GHS, PA, 2.2LB	13.00	13.00
SUNFLOWER, MINI, PA, 10	7.50	7.50

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, February 1, 2016

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	40.00	46.00
61-75 lbs.	95.00	100.00
76-90 lbs.	152.50	157.50
91-105 lbs.	160.00	165.00
106 lbs. & up	167.50	172.50
Farm Calves	177.50	200.00
Starter Calves	50.00	55.00
Veal Calves	125.00	160.00
Open Heifers	120.00	170.00
Beef Heifers	82.00	112.00
Feeder Steers	95.00	120.00
Beef Steers	106.00	127.00
Stock Bulls	120.00	175.00
Beef Bulls	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs	n/a	n/a
Sheep	85.00	150.00
Lambs	140.00	220.00
Goats each	135.00	310.00
Kid Goats	3@	125.00
Canners	up to	74.50
Cutters	75.00	79.00
Utility Grade Cows	80.00	85.00
Rabbits each	5.00	20.00
Chickens each	4.50	30.00
Ducks each	n/a	n/a

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	1.67	1.83
LARGE	1.61	1.75
MEDIUM	1.43	1.56

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	2.25	2.36
LARGE	2.17	2.28
MEDIUM	1.66	1.77
SMALL	.99	1.10

USDA WHOLESALE EGG PRICES

All prices per dozen or as noted.

Certified Organic		
BROWN, XLG	2.61	3.60
BROWN, XLG, 1/2	1.80	1.95
BROWN, LGE	2.30	3.50
BROWN, LGE, 1/2	1.71	1.91

USDA RETAIL ORGANIC CHICKEN

WEIGHTED AVG

WHOLE FRYER	3.69
BNLS/SKNLS BREAST	7.05
BREAST TENDERS	7.76
LEGS	3.99
DRUMSTICKS	2.93
BNLS/SKNLS THIGHS	5.99

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

9-R. CT Boot and Shoe offers top quality American Made work boots and shoes. Redwing, Thorogood, and Carolina brands. Free shipping in Connecticut. CT Boot, 33 River Street, Thomaston. Mention this ad to save \$20.00. 860-283-2385.

11-R. 72 x 30 x 12 (high) foot hi-tunnel for sale. Lots of extra parts. 203-387-3055.

12-R. Six hoop houses – 28 x 96. Garage doors also available. Call 203-484-9708.

16-R. Two wood splitters for sale: 48" "Brute" (mfd.'d Ludlow, VT) 3ph-PTO w/table. \$1,800.00. 26" JD #32, 3ph, live hyd. \$500.00. Call 860-267-4341.

WANTED

7-R. Maple Lane Farms is a hydroponic grower of produce for the retail and food service markets. Due to increased demand from our customers, we are seeking greenhouse owners to grow our products on a contract basis. If interested, call 860-227-8786.

10-R. Orange Community Farmers' Market: Vendors Wanted – Bee Products; Cheese Monger; Fruits; Fish & Shellfish; plus, Artisanal Food Products. Market begins June 2016. If interested, please call Paul Grimmer – 203-891-1045.

17-R. Standing timber wanted. Hardwood/Softwood. Top prices paid. Licensed and insured. 10 acre minimum. 860-798-4039.

MISCELLANEOUS

6-R. Farm/Land specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tetreault Realty (860) 644-5667.

8-R. FREE Off grade potatoes for animal feed in East Windsor, Conn. Call Karl 860-268-5931 or Glenn 860-930-4331 to arrange pick up.

CT FARM EMPLOYMENT CONNECTION

14-R. Lease Opportunity: Fully equipped, actively operating, PYO-Retail-Wholesale fruit orchard in central Connecticut. Thirty groomed acres of apples, pears, peaches, and nectarines with busy country store. An excellent long term opportunity. For more details call 203-213-8833.

15-R. Boulder Knoll Community Farm, Cheshire, looking for Farm Manager for small scale, sustainable 75 shareholder CSA farm. Farm Manager responsible for all aspects of operation. Visit www.friendsofboulderknoll.com/hiring for more info.

VEGETABLE CROP PESTS WORKSHOP

The Fairfield County Agricultural Extension Council will present a workshop on vegetable crop pests on Tuesday, February 16, from 1-4 pm at the Fairfield County Extension Center, 69 Stony Hill Road, Bethel.

The workshop features Jude Boucher of UConn Extension and Joan Allen of UConn's Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture.

The workshop will cover the following vegetable groups: alliums, asparagus, basil, brassica, chenopods, cucurbits, legumes, lettuce, solanaceous, sweet corn, and umbelliferae.

Commercial vegetable crop growers may receive 3 pesticide credits for attending. A registration fee of \$20 can be paid at the door in check or cash. Pre-registration is suggested, to register call 203-297-2249 or visit <http://fcaec.org>

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not. Olajos, however, admitted that he did not follow through on most of the recommendations made by the officers and the veterinarian, including supplying copies of receipts for the purchase of hay and grain.

On Dec. 4, state animal control officers returned to the farm and again found the horses with no hay available to eat, and two in a barn with no food or water.

Officers gave the two horses water and they drank several gallons immediately, indicating that they had been without water for some time. Olajos eventually arrived at the farm with a load of hay he had just picked up.

Today, each of the 32 horses was evaluated by Dr. Bruce Sherman, a veterinarian with the Dept. of Agriculture, who determined that all were to be removed from the property to ensure they were properly treated in a healthy environment.

"Our goal was to work with the owner to rehabilitate the horses on site," said Sherman, Director of the agency's Bureau of Regulation and Inspection. "Unfortunately, our best efforts to bring the owner into compliance did not result in all of the horses being cared for to the degree that we required."

The dogs, chickens and rabbits were taken to municipal animal shelters in nearby towns. The Dept. of Agriculture will continue the investigation to determine if criminal charges are warranted.

USDA TO MEASURE NEW ENGLAND GRAPE PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Concord, New Hampshire – According to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, the number of New England grape growers and the acres planted to grapes continued to show substantial growth over the last few years.

To learn more about the trends of New England grape production, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is now conducting the 2015 New England Grape Production and Processing Survey.

"The New England Grape Industry has been asking for more data on the types of grapes grown and the value of production," said Gary Keough, State Statistician of the NASS New England Field Office. "This is an opportunity for New England grape growers and processors to provide more detailed data to that shows the economic importance of their industry."

NASS will mail the survey in late-January to all grape growers and processors in New England. The survey will look at the acreage, production, value of production, and utilization of the 2015 grape crop.

"The results of the survey will help show the importance of grape production in New England," Keough noted. "In addition, the information can help producers make informed decisions about the future of their own farming operations."

Recipients are requested to respond by mail by February 29, 2016. NASS will publish the results in April 2016. For more information about the New England Grape Production and Value Survey, call (603) 227-3129.



Above left: Dept. of Agriculture veterinarian Dr. Bruce Sherman taking a blood sample from one of the 32 horses seized today from Fairy Tail Equine breeder in East Hampton. Upper right and below: Some of the other horses removed from the property.



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